Henry Swann.

J. M. Warden, J. F. Chenoweth G. E. Hite,

Jacob Todd, J. A. B. Wilson, N. M. Browns.

B. P. Raymond, William P. Stowe, Sabin Halsey, Thomas Clithero.

William H. Olin, J. C. Lescock, D. C. Olmstead, M. S. Hard, John G. Eckman.

T. P. Frost, E. W. Culver.

WEST TEXAS.

G. R. Townsend.

WEST VIRGINIA.

WEST WISCONSIN.

WILMINGTON.

WISCONSIN.

WYOMING.

THE ORGANIZATION EFFECTED.

ELECTING SECRETARIES AND OTHER OFFICERS

-THE DEBATE STARTED.

all debate on the eligibility of the women as delegates,

and when the roll-call was finished the Conference

Dr. Olin nominated David S. Monroe for permanent

ers. Halsey, Clarke, Hard, Crogman, Wernli, Urmi,

secretary, and he was unanimously elected. The secretary afterward announced as his assistants the Rev.

Deherty and Crosthwalt. Dr. Lanahan moved to

amend the 13th Rule, by making twenty minutes

instead of ten the limit of speaking, and in urging his

Dr. Neely urged a vote. The resolution was then

ADDRESSES OF CONGRATULATION

COME TO THE CITY.

went into an election of its officers.

The decision of the Bishops had settled for the time

G. W. Atkinson, Arthur I. Boreman

F. E. Bentley. Jerome B. Jones.

George H. Fosten E. L. Paine.

G. Reynolds, E. C. Wadhams,

VERMONT. C. Temple, William A. Boyce.

to business, and the addresses of welcome by Judge Fancher and the Rev. Dr. Hare, as well as Bishop Bowman's reply on behalf of the General Conference, were only an interlude comma courtesy.

BUSINESS BEGUN WITHOUT DELAY. THE PROCEEDINGS BECOME ANIMATED.

GLIMPSES AT THE REPRESENTATIVE DELEGATES MANY LADIES AMONG THE INTERESTED SPECTATORS - MISS WILLARD EX-PECTED HERE SOON.

One hundred and twenty-two years ago the first Methodist Episcopal gathering in New-York was in a rigging loft in the lower part of the city. There was o Methodist church to meet in. Yesterday there as no Methodist church in the city large enough in which to transact the business of the General Conrence and it assembled in the Metropolitan Opera House, the most complete and the handsomest building or public gatherings in New-York. All the accommo dations of the great building were called into use. stage, which was occupied by the bishops and the taries, was set with a background of the interior of a modern palace scene.

Bishop Thomas Bowman, as senior bishop of the church, announced the opening of the session. The delegates, nearly 500 in number, filled the body of The curtains in the three tiers of boxes overlooking the scene were drawn aside and the bright faces of many ladies looked down on the ecclesiastical ody and awaited with interest the business that was to come. Above them the seats of the dress circle were filled with men and women from all parts of the

Bishop Bowman, his curling silvery-white hair brushed back, was scated in a large easy chair near the centre of the stage. At his left was ex-Judge Enoch L Fancher, who was to make the address of welcome to the Conference, and at his right were the other bishops of the church, Randolph S Foster, Stephen M Merrill, Edwin G. Andrews, Henry W. Warren, Cirus D. Fost, John F. Huest, John M. Wal. Warren, Cyrus D. Foss, John F. Hurst, John M. Wal-den, Willard F. Mallalleu and Charles H. Fowler. ishop Ninde was absent, being detained by illness and Missionary Bishop Taylor was looked for in vain It was stated that he had been invited to a seat with the bishops and would arrive later. PROMINENT FIGURES IN THE CONFERENCE.

The delegates had no regular seats until after the permanent organization of the body. Down in the front was the slight figure of Dr. James M. Buckley, s head covered with a black skull cap, which was constantly coming up before the Conference as the Near him were the tall figure bate grew heated. and the broad forchead of Dr. James M. King, and beside Dr. King, John Slayback, the banker, and a lay delegate of the New-York Conference. The robust the centre, and along the aisle were the genial features of the Rev. Dr. Vincent, of Chautauqua renown nd the heavier figure of the Rev. Dr. A. B. Leonard the Prohibition candidate for Governor of Ohio, who defeated last year by Governor Foraker. On the right side of the aisie were Dr. Neeley, of Philadel-phia, the champion of the women delegates, and Dr. pencer, who looked like a divinity student, but who has just returned from his mission in Japan. Governor Lounsbury, of Connecticut, sat quietly near him. The Rev. Dr. Vernon, of Italy, occupied a scat at some distance from the platform, but showed himself possessed of good lungs and a voice that could be heard learly all over the house. The colored representatives were mostly grouped

together midway among the delegates and to the right the stage. There are thirty-nine of them, many of the older delegates having been slaves. Of the women delegates only three of the five who have been hosen were present. These were Mrs. Angeline F. Newman, who was the first woman delegate to the Conference, chosen by the efforts of the Nebraska women, who started the issue; Mrs. Amanda C. Rip-pey, of Kansas; Mrs. Mary C. Nind, of Minnesota. Mrs. Lizzie Van Kirk, the fourth delegate, of Pittsburg, had determined not to present herself unless the Con-ference decided that women were to be admitted, and Miss Frances E. Willard, who arrived in the city last week, was obliged to return home on account of the timess of her mother. Word was received from her restorday, however, that she expected to come back to New-York at once, as her mother was much better. In the boxes and with friends who were looking on sat twelve more ladies who have been chosen reserve delegates, and if the Conference decides favorably for the women one or two of these expect to occupy seats in the body which are vacant by reason absence of the regular delegates. FRIENDS WATCHING THE DEBATE.

Among the boxes were many guests of those who had rented them, who are not members of the Methodist Church, or others who are members, but are not delegates. The Rev. Dr. John P. Newman and Mrs. Newman occupied the box of J. H. Seymour, the produce merchant, with Mrs. Seymour and friends. The Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbett, of Demonth Church, was in good Methodist. Abbott, of Plymouth Church, was in good Methodist company in another box, and the Rev. Dr. Lindsay copalian, was sested with Anderson Fowler and some of the members of his former congregation. Ex-Governor Pattison, of Pennsylvania, who represents North India in the Conference, has rented the Jay Gould box in the second tier for the month, and it was occupied by his friends. Mrs. W. C. De Peau, of who is said to be an ardent believer in the Indiana who is said to be an artest the box of Sec-rights of women delogates, occupied the box of Sec-riary Whitney, which she has rented. The Astor boxes have been taken by Mrs. J. B. Cornell and A. C. Conover; the Bostwick box by G. F. Hodgman; Austin Corbin's by Mrs. J. M. De Veau; that of Elbridge T. Gerry by F. M. Otterman; William Rockefeller's by George McKibben. The Vanderbilt boxes were filled by the families of the Rev. Dr. J. H. Vincent and William Hoyt; the Rhinelander box by David Decker, of Elmira. Among other well-known Metho-dist people who have secured boxes are:

Decker, of Elmira. Among other well-known Methodist people who have secured boxes are:

Clinton B. Fisk, Clement Studebaker, the Indiana manufacturer and a delegate; Dr. J. M. Buckley, J. E. Lesycraft, John E. Andrews, Ley, J. E. Lesycraft, John E. Andrews, E. B. Tuttle and H. W. Knight; the families of the Rev. Dr. Firsgerald and Chaplain McCabe occupy box E together. The Rev. Stephen Merritt and Mrs. Merritt were promptly in their places in box F. of the Rev. Dr. Firsgerald and Chaplain McCabe occupy box E together. The Rev. Stephen Merritt and Mrs. Merritt were promptly in their places in box F. of the Rev. Dr. Orawford, W. J. Hongiand, of Nowark; Mrs. Lewrey, Mrs. W. A. Skidmore, P. A. Weich, Joseph G. Stout, Bowles Colgate, president of the Methodist Church Extension Committee; John D. Slayback, D. H. Bates, of the Western Union Telegraph Company; F. H. Root, of Buffalo; J. M. Telegraph Company; F. H. Root, of Buffalo; J. M. Telegraph Company; F. H. Root, of Buffalo; J. M. Telegraph Company; F. H. Root, of Buffalo; J. M. Richard Grant, of Jersey City, treasurer of Bishop Taylor Mission Organization; Dr. S. L. Flood, of Meadvills, Penn. Editor of "The Chautau-Quan"; John Bentley, Bishop Fors, S. V. Swain, of Detvoit; H. F. Whitlock, of Delaware; Amos Shinkle, of this city; W. H. Craig, of Ransas City; A. Carmichael and S. Merritt Hock; Dr. Philips and Mr. Hunt, of the Methodist Book Concern; William White, president of the Dry Dock Railroad and T. Burlington; Hirsm Merritt, Alfred Sully, James Boyd, Dr. O. D. Hammond, of Albany; W. H. Stout, of Fort Scott, Kansas; the Rev. Dr. O. H. Tiffany, of this city; Alden Speare, of Boston; J. J. Imboff, of Lincoln, Neb.; A. G. Newman, the Rev. Dr. J. P. Goucher, of Baltimere; the Rev. Dr. Rust, of Cincianati; A. H. Brummell, the candy manufacturer; B. F. Ham, Morris H. Smith, the Rev. Dr. A. B. Kendlig, Dr. V. B. Stout, of Fort Scott, Kansas; the Rev. Dr. Dr. J. F. Guender, of Brooklyn; A. Ogden and Kirk Boylan, manufacturers of Newark.

In many instances several delegates or their friends secure a box together. Mrs. Thomas A. Edison, wife of the inventor, and her mother, Mrs. Lewis Miller, of Akron, Ohlo, occupied the Samuel D. Babcock box. No. 65, which they have rented for the month.

SETTLING DOWN TO BUSINESS.

THE PROCEEDINGS OPENED WITH A DEVOTION. AL SERVICE-THE BISHOPS SPEAK.

Bishop Bowman opened the Conference at 9:15, and the chapter from the 103d Psalm beginning " Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul," was read by Bishop Foster. Bishop Foss then read the first hymn in the Methodist Hymn Book "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing," and Chaplain McCabe stepping forward as chorister on the stage the delegates all rose and joined with the others in the house in singing the hymn. This was followed by a prayer offered by the Rev. Dr. Olin, of the Wyoming Conference. He closed by reciting the Lord's Prayer, in which the whole assemblage joined. Bishop Walden then read from the Scriptures and Hymn No. 770 was sung. Bishop Warren, of Boston, next led in prayer. After invoking a blessing on the Conence assembled, all its members, clerical and lay. he continued :

Thou great God of the Church, dwell with us in all our labor; Thou that hast caused nation after nation that would not serve Thee to perish; Thou that hast st aside church after church, spewing some out of Thy mouth and removing the candlestick from ethers. Christ, be with the series we may hold our place, never losing our first love, holding on to God and humanity, and lifting all men toward the giorious height of the communion of God and the salvation of Josus Christ. Over all the sarth pour Thy mighty spirit. Wherever the agents of this Church are, there make Thy power to be felt. There reveal, O are, there was a subject to the carth pour the three to are the three the make Thy power to be felt. There reveal, O are, the three to are the total the thirty and the three three three three three

o Him by faith.

God give us a spirit like Christ. May there be no off-seeking. Thou Head of the Church, take Thy scource of small cords again and go through Thy temple, laying on he bakes and casting out, not those that sell doves but hose who sell themselves and the interests of Thy Church; until the Church shall be

strong in right, serving God with purpose of heart. God hear us for our land. A STATEMENT FROM THE BISHOPS. On the conclusion of the devotional services, Bishop Bowman read the following statement from the Board

of Bishops:

Dear Brethren: By the favor of a kind Providence, we are here to organize the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. For such organization there is no rule in the Discipline which prescribes the successive steps to be taken, and custom, which sometimes makes law, has been variable in the past, and furnishes no authoritative guide. We ard at this hour in the presence of new conditions—conditions which call for a brief statement of the views of the Bishops touching the situation prior to the

views of the Hishops touching the situation prior to the organization.

In the earlier General Conferences the delegates-elect brought their certificates of election with them, and each man presented his credentials in person when the call was made, and was admitted. For a few sessions past, for the purpose of ceonomizing time and facilitating the organization, the practice has obtained of sending certificates of election to the Secretary of the previous General Conference, in order that a roll of delegates-elect might be prepared for the opening of the General Conference. This practice has received the sanction of the General Conference, and has been followed in the preparation for the organization about to be effected.

In this preparation work, the duty of the secretary of the previous General Conference is only clerical, as he sustains no efficial relation to the body about to be constituted. The only authority present to superintend the organization is the Episcopacy, represented by the General Superintendent who occupies the chair. He is in his place by virtue of his office, and upon him rests the responsibility of seeing that the organization is constitutions of the feeder of the organization is constitutional to the present of the previous feeders have been appeared to the previous feeders and the previous feeders are the previous feeders and the previous feeders are the previous feeders are the previous feeders and the previous feeders are the previous feeders are the previous feeders are the previous feeders are the previous feeders and the previous feeders ar

eral Superintendent was occupied to the main rests the responsibility of seeing that the organization is constitutionally effected; before him are the delegate-elect and the constitution of the General Conference—the latter being his sole guide in the duty of the hour.

UNUSUAL CAUTION NECESSARY.

In ordinary cases, when no one is proposed for membership whose title is questioned, the method of procedure is comparatively immaterial. Slight informalities pass without question. All concerned are there animated by the single purpose to proceed with becoming selemnity and promptness to the point of readiness for business. But when information is in possession of the Hishop, in trustworthy form, that a number of persons whose names have been certified to the secretary as delegates-elect are held to be ineligible, and that their title to be admitted as delegates will be challenged the conditions are materially changed, and greater caution and more rigid adharence to the form and substance of the law become necessary.

ence to the form and substance of the law become necessary.

The Bisheps find names proposed for a place on the roll of the General Conference, which belongs to a class of persons never heretofore admitted to membership in that body, and whose right to be admitted has never been determined, nor even considered, by the supreme authority of the church, so that neither the church, nor the highest tribunal known to her laws, has ever expressed a judgment in relation to their elligibility. We also find some names of persons certified as elected by electoral conferences in the bounds of which they neither reside nor hold membership. And, furthermore, we find that against the admission of all these porsons protests responsibly signed, and taking the form of challenges of their right to be admitted, have been propared, and are lodged in our hands, to be presented when the question of their admission comes before the Conference.

when the question of their admission comes before the Conference.

In view of these facts, the Bishops, fully sensible of the gravity of the Issues involved, and feeling anxious that the subject be presented to the General Conference for action without prejudice to the rights of any party in the case, have agreed, after mature deliberation, first, that they have no jurisdiction in the matter of the eligibility of the classes of persons in question; and, second, that the General Con-ference, which must pronounce upon the issues in the case, can only exercise its jurisdiction when duly organ-

OMITTING SEVERAL NAMES.

Therefore, in the nature of the case, there must be a general Conference, with a quorum of unchallenged delegates, before the claims of the parties thus challenged can be presented. Then, insemuch as no right is put in loopardy by the omission from the preliminary roll-call of the names of persons whose eligibility is disputed, and no prejudice is created for or against their claims, and in order to the umost fairness and impartiality in the issue to be presented to the General Conference, it has been decided by the Bishops—the authorized interpreters of the law till the General Conference is organized—that the names of the parties whose eligibility is challenged upon constitutional grounds shall not be Called till after a constitutional quorum of unchallenged delegates shall have been ascertained to be present and the body is duly organized for business. It will then be competent for the Conference to act upon the cases in question in such way as its sense of justice and right shall dictate as lawful and expedient.

In the meantime, dear brethren, aware as we all are that we stand in the presence of Several questions of grave that we stand in the presence of Several questions of grave importance and great delicacy, concerning which there are differences of opinion, we suggest the exercise of patience and moderation, and urge upon you the duty of prayer for and moderation, and urge upon you the duty of prayer for and moderation, and use upon you the duty of prayer for the presence and show Himself preside over us, and illuminate and tranquilize our minds for the duties before us.

It will be our pleasure, brethren, so soon as you shall. OMITTING SEVERAL NAMES.

fore us.

It will be our pleasure, brethren, so soon as you shall signify your readiness, to submit our quadrennial address, which we trust will be helpful to your deliberations.

The secretary of the last General Conference will now call the roll propared in conformity to the principles enunciated, and so soon as the Conference shall have elected a secretary to make record of its proceedings, we will present the names requiring your deliberation.

Dr. Neely, of Philadelphia, attempted to speak on the report of the Hishops, but was declared out of order, and gave notice of his intention to make a state-ment later.

CALLING THE ROLL OF DELEGATES. MINISTERIAL AND LAY REPRESENTATIVES FROM

ALL THE WORLD. The following is the list of the Ministerial and Lay delegates elected by the several Annual Conferences Lav. Ministerial ALABAMA.

John D. Pierce, Millard F. Parker. ARKANSAS. Absalom C. Phillips. T. B. Ford. John S. Hetheringten E. O. McIntyre, BALTIMORE. Alexar der Ashley, George W. Corner,

BENGAL Robert Laidlaw. J. M. Thoburn, BLUE RIDGE.
Henry F. Ketron.
CALIFORNIA. J. D. Roberson,

Robert Bentley, C. Hartson. James A. Clayton. CENTRAL ALABAMA. W. G. Allen. A. W. McKinney.

Jacob F. Schulte, D. B. Meyen CENTRAL ILLINOIS.

C. O. McCulloch, P. A. Cool, G. W. Gue, B. W. Baker, William H. Hunter. CENTRAL MISSOURI. CENTRAL NEW-YORK. william H. Brown.

Luke C. Queal, E. M. Mills, C. N. Sims, C. C. Wilber, U. S. Becco. Thomas Jones, Thomas W. Durston. CENTRAL OHIO.

E. D. Whitlock, Leroy A. Belt, S. L. Roberts, G. Lease. CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA.

CENTRAL TENNESSEE. J. W. McNelll. L. S. Doolittle. CHICAGO GERMAN. Henry Rilke, G. A. Selfeld. CINCINNATI. C. H. Payne, A. B. Leonard, J. H. Bayliss, I. W. Joyce. John E. Jone., J. K. Pollard.

COLORADO. John W. Lacy, John Evana, COLUMBIA RIVER, James H. Wilbur, William Michell. DAKOTA.

D. William Diggs.
DELAWARE. B. O. Briddell, W. H. Coffey, W. H. Thomas DES MOINES. D. S. Sigler, Leelle M. Shaw.

DETROIT. Arthur Edwards, Lewis R. Fiske, L. P. Davis, A. J. Bigelow, Jacob Horton, J. S. Smart. Horace Hitchcook C. R. Brown.

EAST GERMAN. P. Quattiander. F. K. Keller. EAST MAINE. E. M. Tibbetta, T. H. Wentworth EAST OHIO.

S. J. Williams.
F. A. Arter.

EAST TENNESSEE. J. P. Andrews. G. P. Hukill, E. Appleyard. FLORIDA. FOOCHOW.

GENESER Z. P. Taylor, J. I. Stanton GEORGIA.

A. J. Porter. J. E. Bryant. Jacob Tanner.

Wilcy M. Christian, H. B. Case. IDAHO. S. O. Swackhamer. ILLINOIS.

A. Eads.

William H. Webster, William H. Wilder, M. A. Hewes, M. D. Hawes, William N. McEiroy, Horace Reed.

T. J. McFarland, J. C. W. Coxe, George N. Power.

L. M. Vernon,

R. S. Maclay.

S. E. Pendleton, James Marvin, G. S. Dearborn.

W. R. R. Duncan

A. Martin, H. J. Talbot, William R. Halstond IOWA. ITALY. G. Martini. J. O. Spencer. KENTUCKY.

TEXINGTON. T. R. Fletcher, George L. Kno; LIBERIA. John L. Fuller. C. C. Riley. LOUISIANA.

J. C. Hartzell, A. E. P. Albert J. F. Marshall. MAINE W. L. Daggett, J. B. Donnell. MEXICO. John M. Phillips. J. W. Butler, Daniel Striker,

> Mary C. Nind, G. H. Harrard. MISSISSIPPI. MISSOURI.

William A. Shannon NEBRASKA. NEWARK. R. R. Doherts

> NEW-ENGLAND. L. C. Smith.

NEW-HAMPSHIAM E. A. Grawford, William A. Heard

Clinton B. Fisk, William H. Skirm. NEW-YORK. G. S. Hare, C. C. McCabe, John Miley, F. J. Belcher.

NEW-YORK EAST. D. A. Goodsell, J. M. Buckley, I. Simmons, J. Pullman, Thomas H. Burch, J. O. Peck.

W. M. Graves. J. E. Champlin. NORTHERN NEW YORK. James Coote, H. M. Danford, W. P. Markham, A. Bramiey, Samuei Call.

Frederick Kopp. D. W. Thomas. NORTH INDIANA. Joseph S. Baker, Charles L. Henry,

NORTH NEBRASKA. L. N. Rongra, J. B. Maxfield, W. M. Worley. J. E. Stubbs, Calvin Whitney

C. Schulz. S. P. Celvin, R. D. Utter, W. H. Hickman J. C. Ridpath. NORTHWEST IOWA. H. S. Vaughn. NORTHWEST KANSAS. A. P. Collins, C. D. Jones. NORTH VEST SWEDISH.

NORWAY. John Wigren. J. H. Johnson. NORWEGIAN AND DANISH. A. Hangensen.

J. M. Trimble, J. H. Gardner, J. C. Jackson, 19., 1. F. King, James M. Weir. OREGON. William S. Harrington

T. B. Neely.
William Swindella.
S. W. Thomas,
C. J. Little,
William J. Paxson
J. F. Crouch PITTSBURG.

C. W. Smith, J. F. Core, N. G. Miller, W. B. Watkins. PUGET SOUND. D. T. Le Sourd. D. T. Denny. BOCK RIVER

J. H. Vincent, C. G. Trusdell, Lewis Curts, N. H. Axtell, William A. Spencer, F. M. Bristel. ST. JOHN'S RIVER, George T. King. O. C. McLean. William H. Craig. B. St. J. Fry.

ST. LOUIS GERMAN. H. H. Jacoby, W. Koeneke, H. Schuetz. BAVANNAH. C. O. Fisher, S. C. Upshaw. T. A. Fortson, William H. Crowman SOUTH CAROLINA. Eugene A. Webster BOUTHEAST INDIANA

Eli F. Ritter, J. S. Tevis, William R. Lathrop. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. Watson Parrish, William H. Johnson, SOUTHERN GERMAN. F. B. Blumberg. BOUTHERN ILLINOIS. Henry Diets.

J. L. Wellar, J. W. Locke, John Leeper. SOUTH INDIA. Stanley Murray. J. E. Robinson SOUTH KANSAS. William H. Stou-B. Kelly. J. A. Hyden, H. McBirney. SOUTHWEST KANSAS. H. H. McAdama, William H. Mock

R. W. Lyon, S. L. Dwight

J. D. Lotkin, M. L. Gates, B. C. Swartz. SWEDEN. Jons Pehrsson M. F. Ahgren. SWITZERLAND. H. J. Breiter. TENNESSEE. T. V W. Johnson C. Pickett. J. H. Wilkins, John B. McCulloch. Edward Lee, I. B. Scott.

William Griffin, Homor Eaton, J. W. Eaton, A. D. Heaxt, H. Graham, D. W. Gatca A. Gulberd, C. D. Hammond UPPER IOWA. A. J. Kynett, William F. King. E. A. Snyder, Jesse P. Farley. H. H. Grene, J. T. Crippeo, G. W. Briadell.

VIRGINIA. WASHINGTON.
George W. Hollinger
E. Tyler. WEST GERMAN. Philip Kest WEST NEDRASKA

INDIANA.

Amanda C. Rippey. Ira I. Taber. Amos Shinkle, Miles N. Hambleton

James II. Deputie,

MINNESOTA. R. Forbes, G. H. Bridgman, W. W. Satterlee J. N. Liscomb.

MONTANA.

John E. Ricarda.

J. N. Fitzgerald, H. A. Buttz. D. R. Lowrie, S. Van Benschoten, J. I. Boswell.

S. P. Upham, G. W. Chadbourne, J. W. Hamilton, G. P. Eaton, J. W. Mansfield, D. Dorchester. NEW-ENGLAND SOUTHERI. William H. Phillips, Leavitt Bates. O. W. Gallagher, D. A. Jordan, S. O. Benton, Edward Edson.

NEW-JERSEY. J. L. Scoy, J. B. Graw, G. B. Wight, G. L. Dobbins. John D. Slayback James M. King, James R. Day,

> P. C. Lounsbury NORTH CAROLINA.

Warner Miller.

NORTH GERMAN.
H. H. Helms.
NORTH INDIA.
Robers E. Pattison.

C. G. Hudson, F. T. Simpson, E. Holdstock, Charles W. Lynch.

NORTHWEST GERMAN. NORTHWEST INDIANA

among men."

When, afterward, Dr. Coke, already a presbyter of the Church of England, was ordained to the office of Superintendent or Bishop, and with letters patent from Mr. Wesley came here, and by solemn ordinations and appropriate ritual organized the Methodist societies into an Episcopal Church, surely such an authority and such a purpose, ratified, as they have been, by more than a contury of Heaven-bestowed approval, manifested by the great success of our Church, inderse our claim to a Scriptural Church and a historic Episcopate, and fit us for frateenal relations with any or all of the Protestant denominations of the land; and, doubtless, the method of the acceptance or the proposal of such relations will, at this session, certously engage your attention. Can we forget that prayer, "Father that they may all be one—us we are one."

Olie B. Jacobs. Oliio. S. H. Hurst, C. W. Super. You may not believe that the religious life of the nation

gton. Joseph Pearl.
PHILADELPHIA.
John B. Stern.
James Gillender.

crated to his worship.

Permit a layman one further observation. There is no Lizzie D. Van Kirk, J. A. Strickier. reamit a layman one transcroperation.

ede of ecclesiastical law that, in the judgment of Methodists, takes precedence of a little book entitled, "The Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church."

I need not say that Methodists revere that book, and ever

I need not say that Methodisks revere that cook, and ever bow to its authority; and they deprecate any strained in-terpretation of any of its sections, while, of course, they will cordisally accept the Amendments Which are the result of your deliberations—deliberations of a judicatory wield-ing a supremacy over so wast a portion of the Christian

ing a supremacy over so vast a portion of the Christian world.

Fathers and brethren: In this, the most active and attractive of American cities—the city where the Methodism of the continent was cradied—you have met for the discharge of your high duties, as members of the General Conference, to make rules and regulations for the Methodists Episcopai Church.

The Methodists of this city greet and welcome you Chief pastors and homored representatives of our Israel!

Grand is the work before you! It will remain when the strong pillars of this gergeous structure where you have assembled have crumbled into dust. The hours here spent will live, "not unapplauded in the book of Heaven."

This conference room may ever remain a blessed spot in your life-long memories. Here the Methodists of New-York greet and welcome you! We bid you welcome to our confidence and friendship, welcome to our homes and our hearts! And, though we shall not meet you all again on these transient shores, yet may heaven grant that we may meet you again in the glories of Christ's eternal kingdom.

"Your joy and your friendship to share,

ence. God bless Dr. John M. Trimble! (Applausc.)
In 1844 the population of New-York was 400,000. It
s now 1,600,000, and it has increased in magnificence,
weath and culture more than in population. The entire
population of the United States in 1844 was 20,000,000.
It is now 60,000,000. In our own church in 1814 the
mombetship was 1,171,356. Our Southern brethren
when they went away-God speed the day when we
shall be reunited—(applause) took with them their share
of members. Their numbers now, for God has prospered them, are little less than 2,000,000; and we have a little

more than 2.000,000; so altogether the great church numbers 4,000,000. (Applause.)

"One family we dwell in Him; One church, above, beneath." "One family we dwell in Him; One church, above, beneath."

Bishop Bowman briefly returned thanks for the greetings extended to the Conference. Dr. Hare's reminiscences of 1844 had auggested to him that he could remember the time when the great mass of men whom he saw before him with Abraham-like beards would not have been admitted to the ministry or sent to the Conference under any circumstances (laughter) and only two weeks ago he preached to a congregation he would not have been allowed to preach to in 1844. "Some time ago," proceeded the Bishop, "I saw a Friend's bookstore with flowers and pictures in the window. I thought it curious, and going into the store remarked upon it. The old Quaker in charge raised his spectacles, and 'Well,' said he, 'thee has found that the world moves.' (Laughter and applause.)

PLEASANTRY DUE TO THE SURROUNDINGS.

PLEASANTRY DUE TO THE SURROUNDINGS.
At the close of Bishop Bowman's remarks General Fish announced the arrangements that had been made for the delegates. He was interrupted by loud applause that broke over the house as Missionary Bishop Taylor came on the stage and took a seat quietly beside the Bishops.

"That's for the continent," continued General Fish pleasantly. A new discussion then arose on the dis-tribution of surplus seats in the body of the house

pleasantly. A new discussion then arose on the distribution of surplus seats in the body of the house among the delegations. Dr. Buckley desired an additional seat given to each delegation.

"What do you call this part of the house!" asked Dr. Neely of Dr. Buckley.

"I must appeal to General Fisk," repiled Dr. Buckley. "He appears to be the only man here who knows about theatres." (Laughter.)

"In my friend, Dr. Buckley's 'Book on Theatres,'" responded General Fisk "he calls this part of the bouse 'the parquette.'" (Renewed laughter and applause.)

Dr. Buckley thought that notther the Bishop nor Dr. Neely had any right to interject opinion on the Conference. A discussion arose as to whether the papers relating to the delegates were before the Conference or not. Bishop Andrews, as secretary of the Board of Bishops, said that there was no intention of witholding the papers. Dr. Hare insisted that they were before the Conference. The chalirman then directed the secretary to read the papers. The entire matter was then referred to the committee which will report to day. A recess was then taken for an hour.

The names of the delegates against whose admission the protests are made are as follows: Amanda C. Rippey, Mary C. Nind, Angle F. Newman, Lizzie D. Yan Kirk and Frances E. Williard; John M. Cornoll, John E. Phillips, ex-Governor Pattison and John E. Rickards. The objection to the first three men is that they represent conferences in which they have no residence, and the election, of the last is characterized by an irregularity.

DELEGATES CHOOSING THEIR SEATS.

The afternoon session was opened at a little after 3 with Bishon Foster in the chair. The Rev. Dr.

amend the 13th Ruie, by making twenty midutes instead of ten the limit of speaking, and in urging his point he said it was evident that questions of unusual gravity were to come before this Conference, which could not be fairly treated in ten minutes' speeches. He moved that the rules of the last General Conference be adopted, with the single amendment suggested above. This was seconded, and then Dr. Flood called for a division of the motion, in order that the Conference might vote understandingly.

Dr. Lanahan agreed to this. Dr. Hunt urged a vote, and Dr. Buckley spoke in favor of the amendment. Then Bishop Rowman suggested that the Conference listen to an address of welcome that he understood had been prepared by the New-York Methodists. Dr. Hamilton said the head no objection to listening to the address, but thought that the organization should first be completed. He wished to move for the appointment of two committees, the first to consist of one delegate from each General Conference District, and three members-at-large, to whom should be referred the eligibility of the contestants after their names had been called, the committee to report at 10 o'clock this morning.

Dr. Queal moved that this motion be laid on the table until the address of welcome was heard. After this motion was lost, Dr. Foster, of Wisconsin, moved that the chair appoint a committee, to consist of one minuster and one layman from each conference, to whom should be referred the specified contestants and all others who might appear. Dr. Buckley sympathized with Dr. Hamilton's motion, but suggested as there were two classes of contestants it be amended to include two committees, one to consider the cases contested because of alleged unconstitutionality in the appointment, the other the cases of ordinary contest, in which facts alone were to be investigated.

Dr. Hamilton accepted the amendment, which further provided that both committees should report at 10 o'clock this morning. He then read the resolution as amended.

Dr. Paxton said tha The afternoon session was opened at a little after 3, with Bishop Foster in the chair. The Rev. Dr. Meclay, of Japan, read the Scriptures and offered Then Dr. Buckley effered a resolution which was adopted, that the delegates vacate their seats and the centre aisle and retire to the lobbles and the boxes, while the apportioning of permanent scats was going on. Discipline was relaxed during the next two hours. The morning's brave array of Bishops retired to their room, leaving only Bishop Foster. The

retired to their room, leaving only Bishop Foster. The delegates formed a fringe three or four deep around the body of the house. The three women delegates sat in the rear of the house, interested observers of a seene in which they were denied participation.

It was not long before all the slips were ready and placed in the hat. Upper lowa Conference won the list chance and chose seats in the second row. Two-thirds of the way down the list came the choice of eric. The whole delegation smited with gratification over their good fortune, as, headed by Dr. Flood, they marched down to front seats which somehow or other had been overlooked by previous conferences. The New-York Conference came well on toward the last, and was received with general hand-clapping for the enforced courtesy which gave the choice of the best positions to visiting delegations. New-York chose seats as amended.

Dr. Paxton said that this discussion was out of place, inasmuch as there were no cases before the Conference. The Bishops had said that there were protests against certain delegates, which were to be brought up after the Conference was organized. Therefore Dr. Paxton thought the first thing to be done was to organize.

Bishop Bowman read the names of the contestants, which will be found in the protest later in this report. and was received with general hand-diapping for the enforced courtesy which gave the choice of the best positions to visiting delegations. New-York chose seats in "J." The New-York East Conference came later yet, and secured seats Nos. 10 to 24 in "L." By unanimous consent a seat was reserved next to Sia Ser Oug, who speaks only the Foochian dialect, for a Chinese lay delegate, and Dr. Maclay was allowed to sit in the same section in order to act as interpreter. New-England chose seats in "P." but was allowed to chango to "N." The work of seating was finished shortly before 5, the last choice falling to the Nowark Conference, and the Alabama delegation being the last to make a choice. Then Bishop Foster announced the following one from each of the thirteen districts as the "Committee on Elections other than those of Women": C. W. Gallagher, Jacob Graw, De W. C. Huntington, Alfred Wheeler, J. E. Stutts, W. H. Crogman, J. C. Hartwell, Enoch W. Moore, C. R. Loeber and C. Hartson; at-large, C. G. Truesdell, Charles D. Jones, William J. Paxson and Frank A. Arter. General Fisk then read the time and place for the meetings of the several committees of the Conference, and Bishop Foster announced that the Rev. Dr. Queal would conduct the opening services this morning. The meeting closed with the Doxology, and the benediction by Bishop Dr. Neely urged a vote. The resolution was then read as follows:

Resolved, That two committees be appointed, each composed of one delegate from eachyof the General Conference districts and four delegates at large. O whom shall be referred respectively the eligibility to this Conference of all women and all others whose rights to membership are challenged, and that the committee on the eligibility of the women report at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Dr. Flood's motion to lay the amendment on the table was carried. The original motion, as amended by Dr. Buckley, except that the number of delegates-at-large was increased to four, was then adopted. The committee appointed was the Rev. Drs. J. W. Hamilton, J. M. Buckley, W. H. Olin, T. M. Monroe, J. H. Bayliss, John Lanahan, John Martin, G. H. Foster, S. M. Taylor, Jacob Rothweller, W. H. Harrington; the delegates-at-large were: Warner Miller, C. D. Hammond, G. W. Alkinson and Amos Shinkle. Dr. Monroe appointed as his assistant secretaries: The Rev. Sabin Halsey, of Wisconsin; Charles J. Clarke, of Maine: Maniy S. Hand, of Wyoming; W. S. Urmy, of Californis; A. Clark Crosthwaite, of Nebraska; Robert R. Doherty, of Newark; W. H. Crogman, of Savannah, and Jacob Wernil, of North Now-York.

WOMEN AS DELEGATES. A QUESTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL LAW.

opening services this morning. The meeting

EX-JUDGE FANCHER BIDS THE DELEGATES WEL BISHOP WALDEN EXPLAINS WHY THEY SHOULD NOT BE RECEIVED UNDER PRESENT RULES. Bishop Bowman next introduced ex-Judge Euch L. As considerable discussion is likely to ensue in re Fancher to the Conference who welcomed that body to gard to the admission of women delegates, Bishor the city. His address reviewed the progress of Methodism in this country and its leaders who had Valden was asked yesterday to give his views on

Walden was asked yesterday to give his views on this important question. He said: Methodism has done more than any other form of Christianity to secure to women the prominent place they now have in all moral movements, and, in turn, Methodism contributed to the prosperity of the Church. He When John Wesley was preaching at Bath, in the spring of 1739, he was asked by the celebrated Beau Nash by what authority he did these things! Mr. Wesley replied.

"By the authority of Jesus Christ conveyed to me by the present Archbishop of Canterbury, when he laid hands on me, and said: "Take thou authority to preach the Gospel." at another time Mr. Wesley declared, "We are a part, however mean, of that Protestant Church established in these kingdoms; we unite together for this and no other end, to promote, so far as we may be able, justice, morey and the promote, so far as we may be able, justice, morey the promote, so far as we may be able, justice, morey the constitutional question involved in the relation of the constitutional question involved in the constitutional question involved in the constitutional question involved in the constitutional questio

ery of God, and peace and good will The election of several women as lay delegates is the eccasion of examining this question, but the fact of their election is entitled to no weight in its settlement. Had it been raised four, eight, twelve or sixteen years 1868-72, provide for, or admit of, the election of women a ago, when there was little if any thought of such election age, when there was little if any thought of such election, the same principles would have been involved as now, and to the same extent, no more and no less. The case as it stands leads to the following inquiries: Does the plan of lay delegation adopted by constitutional methods lay delegates have a constitutional right to seats in the General Conference 1 and if not, what further steps were mentions. are requisite to their admission, should the scutiment the church favor it?

one."

You may not believe that the religious life of the nation and its ecclesiastical polity are destined immediately to flow in a single channel, and that one Protestant Church of the United States will be the speedy result; but you will believe that, as the House of Bishops of another branch of the Protestant Church has aunounced but four essential principles to a union—to three of which no objection can be made—but little remains to effect a closer fellowship and fruternal co-operation between Christian churches than has heretofore existed. And may He who is the Head of the Church, and the centre and bond of its unity, speed the coming hour when all the watchmen on the walls of Zion shall see eye to eye, and, with harmonious voices, proclaim Him Lerd of all, in all the temples of Christendom consecrated to his worship. Strictly speaking, the Methodist Episcopal Church can hardly be said to have a constitution; it has "Articles of Religion," "General Rules of the United Societies," of Religion," "General Rules of the United Scalettes,"
an accorded and distinct form of government, and a
legislative body with some judicial pewers, namely, the
delegated general conference; but this General Conference
has a constitution—an instrument through which it was
constituted in 1808 by the whole body of itinerant
preachers. This constitution, Discipline 1884, pars 63-72. preachers. This constitution, Discipline from the factor and the same through which the General Conference was constituted and invested with authority, the other by which its powers are limited. The General Conference has "full power to make rules and regulations for our church" under limitations and restrictions specified in the "Restrictive Rules," and to inaugurate or complete changes in the Restrictive Rules in a constitutional way.

Its legislative function has this scope, and ne more
NO CHANGE IN THE CONSTITUTION. This constitution, in each and all of its provisions, has exactly the meaning it had when adopted in 1808, except exactly the meaning it had when adopted in 1808, except in so far as it has been modified by changes made in the constitutional way known as the restrictive rule process. Besides the changes in the ratio of representation, the constitution has been altered fin five particulars; in 1832 by changing the restrictive rule process; in 1838 by au-thorizing a fractional representation; in 1855 by modify-ing the method of calling an extra session of the General Conference and hy reportful for the approximation of a Conference, and by providing for the appointment of Conference, and by providing for the appointment of missionary Blahop; and in 1888-72 by providing for the admission of lay delegates into the General Conference. The effect of these amendments upon the constitution in with a exactly what it was at the time they, severally, were adopted, and each one has the exact meaning now that it was understood and intended to have by those by whom it was adopted. The province of on authoritative interpretation is to ascertain and declare this assuming. The judicial power of the General Conference, in this particular is limited by this principals.

ular, is limited by this principle.

The kind of lay delegation in the Methodist Episcopal ties, our homes and our hearts: And, though we shall not meet you again on these transient shores, yet may heaven grant that we may meet you again in the glories of Christ's eternal kingdom.

*Your joy and your friendship to share, To wonder and weiship with you."

DR. HARE SPEAKS FOR THE CLERGY.

The Rev. Dr. Hare welcomed the Conference on the part of the clergy of New-York. He said in part:

In the midst of the great Conference of 1844, which has been referred to, the world was startled by the first telegraphic message. It was flashed from Washington to Baltinere, and consisted of four words, "What hath God wrought?" God had indeed wrought a great deal to that time, but I think He has done more for the church and country since. The delegates in 1844 numbered 180: to-day they are little less than 500. Only one delegate to the General Conference of 1844 survives, and he has been a delegate to every succeeding Conference. God bless Dr. John M. Trimble! (Analusc.)

In 1844 the population of New-York was 400,000. It is now 1,000,000, and it has increased in magnificence, wealth and culture more than in population. The entire population of the United States in 1844 was 20,000,000. It is now 00,000,000. In our own church in 1844 the membership was 1,171,356. Our Southern brethern

Conference. The submission of the question of lay delegation to the yote of the members of the Church, male and formale, has no bearing in determining who are represented in the Gen-eral Conference and who may be members of it. That vote was to ascertain the sentiment of our Church in this matter and it was taken directly on the question of "lay What Alls You?

Do you have obstruction of the mass! passges, discharges from head and throat, sometimes profese, acrid and water, at others thick tesseions, mucous, purient, bloody, purid and officative; dui, hoave headache most of the time, with occasional "splitting heatacless"; are your eyes weak, watery or indismod; is there ranging in the sers with more or less deafness; de yes have to hack, cough and gar in your efforts to clear your threat in the morning; do yes expectorate officiely with blood; is your voice changed and is there "massal twang" to it; is your breach officially all of say considerable number of hese symptoms you are suffering nass! catarth. The more complicated your disease has become the greater the number of these symptoms you are suffering nass! catarth. The more complicated your disease has become the greater the number and diversity of symptoms. No matter what stage it has reached, for some Catarth leaves the force of a constitutional sanction. The General conferences by the authority vested in them, settled the present plan of lay delegation, whereby the committee what stage it has reached, for some Catarth leaves, which is sold by dunglist at only 50 conta, will curre it. The manufacturers of this disease which they can article of Furnitor at Flint's (lathest, and 6th ave.) does not quickly sell at the cost price, a lower and leaves.

When an article of Furnitur at Filnt's (14th-st. and 6th ave.) does not quickly sell at the cost price, a lower and a lewer price is marked until the bargain is taken.

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of representation in our polity and determines the ratio, but in connection with other parts of the constitution of the General Conference quite clearly identifies the classes to which representation its secured. Prior to the amend-ment of 1868-72, the constituency of the General Confer-ence comprised only the travelling preachers, and it was understood that only travelling preachers could be dele-gates, otherwise it is possible that some popular local preacher or other worthy laymen would have been chosen at some time during the sixty years through which this order of things prevailed. Travelling preachers were alon cligible to seats in the General Conference because at that time the Annual Conferences only were represented in it, and the members of these Annual Conferences were the and the members of these Annual Conferences were the constituency of the General Conference. This would seem to settle that the delegates to the General Conference should be selected from those who are its constituents, i. e., members of the Annual or Quarterly Conferences. This may have an important bearing on the eligibility of any delegation. gate chesen to represent a conference within which he does not hold his conference or church membership.
IMPORTANCE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Prior to 1812 the annual conference had really no re-lation to the general conference, but in the provisions under which the delegated general conference was established, the annual conferences received a new status, having henceforth representation in that body and concurhaving henceforth representation in that body and concur-rent authority with it in making constitutional changes. Prior to 1872 the quarterly conferences had no relation to the general conference, but by the form of lay delegation, adopted 1868-72, they were given-a new status, having henceforth a representation in that body. It is safe to hold that the membership of the annual conference as its existed 1868-12, and the membership of the quarterly con-ference as it existed 1868-72, comprise all the classes enti-tled to representation and eligible as delegates, and that changes in these, or additions to them, can only be safely made in the constitutional way, that is, under the Remade in the constitutional way, that is, under the Restrictive Rule process.

It is well-known that women had no legal status in the quarterly conference in 1868-72, when by the plan of lay delegation it was constituted the primary body of the If any held the place of class-leader, steward, eystem. If any held the place of class-leader, steward, or Sunday-school superintendent, the holding of the place did not make them such office-bearers in a disciplinary sense. That such was the general view is obvious from the action of the general conference in 1880 delaring that the pronouns he, his, and him shall not be construed to exclude women from these offices. Prior to that time (1880) it would have been correct administration to exconferences in 1868-72, it could not have been in the

conferences in 1808-72, it could not have been in the intent of the general and annual conferences to make them eligible as laymen to seats in the general conference.

"The General Conference holds that in all matters connected with the election of lay delegates, the word 'laymen' must be understood to include all the members of the Church who are not members of the Annual Conferences."

"Journal 1872, p. 442. In view of the a salready state!"

the force of this is readily seen. The plan of lay delega--Journal 1872, p. 442. In view of the a salreary the force of this is readily seen. The plan of lay delegation confined "all matters connected with the election of lay delegates" to the quarterly conferences as the primary bodies. Local preachers were members of the quarterly conference and some of them appearing as lay delegates 1872, the question of their eligibility was raised and settled. Up to this time (1872) there had been no occasettled. Up to this time (1872) there had been no occa-sion to determine whether they were separated from the body of the laity by being licensed to preach. Though preachers they were not mambers of annual conferences, hence the above action to remove all doubt as to their rights and prerogatives as members of the quarterly confer-ence. This action did not introduce a new class of per-sons into the quarterly conference—only recegnized the membership of the quarterly conference as it existed when the form of lay delegation was adonted, 1808-72.

the form of lay deleagtion was adopted, 1808-72.
WOMEN HAVE NO LEGAL STANDING. The logical conclusion from these facts and principles is that "in all matters connected with the election of lay delegates," women have no legal standing in either the quarterly or electoral conferences, and are not eligible to seats in the general conference. Does not this prove too much! Does it not vitiate the election in every quar-terly and electoral conference in which women have par-ticipated as voters! Even should this be the result, that would not change the facts nor set aside the principles. The attention of the general conference has not been called to these matters hereto/cre; the constitutional questions involved have not been raised; until now there has been no occasion to inquire as to the relation of women to lay delegation under the plan of 1868-'72; and there is nething in the discipline that annuls an election because of a

these conferences vitiated the elections. They were not legal voters, but that fact was not known; they were honest in their purposes, and those who received and counted their yotes were equally honest in this. Under what provision of the discipline do such votes invalidate an election? Again, if the women present at quarterly and electoral conferences were not legal members and voters, the laymen present were, and each conference is composed of the legal members present. The votes of these legal members in each case did elect some one; these legal members in each case the detect some one that may properly be assumed that the person so elected has been returned, and the person so returned, if otherwise eligible, may be recognized and seated. If challenged it must be shown that the person so scated was not elected by the ballots of those entitled to vote. There will be few

any challenges. Had women been disciplinary members of the Quartery Conference in 1868, when the plan of lay delegation bility to seats in the Electoral and General Conferences would be beyond question. The real matter touched at the time by Dr. Newman's question was the constituency the time by Dr. Newman's question was the constituency of lay delegates under the proposed plan, and the Quar-terly Conference, in which women had no place, being constituted the primary electoral body, the general re-sponse of "No!" "No!" to his question has force as aponse of "No!" "No!" to his question has force as interpreting the thought and intent of the General Conference. If the foregoing arguments he not conclusive they raise so strong a presumption against the eligibility of women as delegates as to render it prudent and safe to establish their eligibility by the restrictive-rule process when the sentiment and welfare of the Church demands their presence in the General Conference. No rule, resolution, or interpretation of a rule or resolution, or other legislative or judicial act of the General Conference, can legalize the presence of women in that body unions their right to the place exists in the constitution.

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